

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY DESTROYED BY FIRE!

THE FIRES which occurred on Wednesday morning in our city will long be remembered with a distinctness of recollection far beyond ordinary conflagrations. The first in point of time broke out a little past one o'clock in the Franklin Hotel, at the northeast corner of D and Eighth streets, kept by Mr. Thomas Baker. It was communicated, as we learn, from the bedroom of a lodger in the upper story, and had got so great a hold of the building before the engines could be brought to bear upon it, that by no efforts could the house be saved, though the chief part of the furniture was happily rescued from the devouring element. The building was owned by Mr. Patrick Kavanagh, and was insured.

The second fire, in point of time, but by far the most considerable in magnitude and importance, took place at about a quarter to eight o'clock, in the spacious and beautiful main Library Room of the Capitol, whereby about thirty-five thousand volumes of most choice and valuable books were destroyed, together with precious collections of manuscripts, paintings, maps, charts, medals, statuary, and articles of vertu, the property of the Government and People of the United States. The origin of the fire is enveloped in mystery, which we hardly think will ever be cleared up. From the best information we have been able to obtain, it appears that smoke or flame, or both, were observed through the windows from without. Immediately upon this Mr. Jno. W. Jones, one of the guards in charge of the Capitol, with another person, a Mr. Hollomon, forced their way into the Library by the principal entrance, and found that the large table at the north end of the room was on fire, together with a portion of the shelving and books in the alcoves on the right or northeast, and between the table and the door at the north end of the room leading to the law library.

At this time Mr. Jones says that half a dozen buckets of water would have sufficed to extinguish the fire. His companion and himself, perceiving this, immediately ran below for the purpose of bringing the requisite fluid, but the draught which their entrance had necessarily produced lent such vigor to the flames that, by the time they returned, the whole room was irretrievably won to the power of the destroying element. The flames seemed to glide over and above the gallery as if its material were of the most combustible character; for scarcely any appreciable time was occupied in wrapping the whole vaulted hall in mingled volumes of smoke and fire.

At the earliest possible moment the fire companies of the city repaired to the scene, the Columbia, as we think, being the first; but its hose being in a frozen condition, from its use a few hours before at the fire on Eighth street, with the thermometer at zero, had to be taken to the new gas factory, on the canal, to be thawed. Five minutes afterwards the Anacostia engine arrived, and its apparatus being in good working condition, it was the first to act with effect. In quick succession seven engines were on the ground, gallantly vying with each other to render service.

Very soon a body of United States Marines from the Navy Yard were ordered up to assist in bearing water, keeping order, and protecting property; and very useful indeed did they prove throughout the day. A large engine was drawn up the steps of the East Portico, and another run into the Rotundo, and from thence supplied a jet of water of great power and efficiency. This was done, we believe, without any injury being sustained by the great historical paintings around the Rotundo walls.

Notwithstanding the fortunate circumstance that the walls of the Library rose so high as, in a measure, to separate that department of the Capitol edifice from the rest, at least to the extent of giving it a distinct roof, it was found that fire had communicated to the main roof, which was, however, stopped by the gallant members of the Anacostia Company, who cut away with their axes so much of the roof as seemed to be in harm's way. In like manner, a portion of the stairway leading to the top of the dome having taken fire, it was extinguished by the same devoted band.

The heat from the fire at the distance of the pillars in front of the Library (for the fire itself never reached them) was so great as to scale them off in places a quarter of an inch thick, taking not merely the painting but the stone under it.

We have stated above that about thirty-five thousand volumes of books were destroyed; this is estimated from the supposed number saved, which is twenty thousand, the original contents of the Library being about fifty-five thousand volumes in all. The contents only of the principal hall were consumed, the north room and Law Library not having been visited by the fire, owing to the thickness of the intervening walls.

Besides the books, a number of superior paintings, hanging around the Library walls and between the alcoves, were included in the destruction. Of these we can call to mind Stuart's paintings of the first five Presidents; an original portrait of Columbus; a second portrait of Columbus; an original portrait of Peyton Randolph; a portrait of Bolivar; a portrait of Baron Steuben by Pyne, an English artist of merit; one of Baron De Kalb; one of Cortez; and one of Judge Hanson, of Maryland, presented to the Library by his family. Between eleven and twelve hundred bronze medals of the Vattreux exchange, some of them more than ten centuries old, and exceedingly perfect, are amongst the valuables destroyed. Of the statuary burnt and rendered worthless, we recollect a statue of Jefferson; an Apollo in bronze by Mills; a very superior bronze likeness of Washington; a bust of Gen. Taylor by an Italian artist; and a bust of Lafayette by David.

We have only heard of three books saved from the Principal Library, namely, the Librarian's Register, an account book, and an old volume of Lord Kingsbury's magnificent work on the Antiquities of Mexico.

We must say that we consider the system adopted by the Government for the protection of the public buildings and property as essentially defective, as the various conflagrations which have taken place—first of the War Office building, next of this very Library part of the Capitol in 1826, then of the Treasury building, next of the General Post Office edifice, and now the Congressional Library again—must prove.

We must express our unqualified admiration for, and warm thanks to the firemen and other citizens, who, in such a freezing night, turned out to save from destruction, if possible, the property of their fellow-citizens, and with an energy and perseverance beyond all praise, continued their exertions till noon the next day, when the fire at the Capitol was at length subdued, and they permitted to seek rest at home—indeed, the engines were, as late as 3 P. M. yesterday, still throwing water into the burnt hall and upon its immense mass of charred and smoking steaming rubbish, to ensure the entire extinction of the fire.

THE LATE REVOLUTION IN FRANCE.

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, DECEMBER 4, 1851.

Last week this great metropolis was without a lion or a wonder, and we were immersed in the almost Cimmerian darkness of November fogs; now we have a lion in the shape of that not very rare occurrence, a Revolution in France; and dreary dark November has given place to bright, sunny, but cold December, with the almost universally cheerful anticipations of Christmas, and its festivities, and its gatherings, and its associations; we say almost, for, alas, in the vast family of mankind, there will be many to whom Christmas will bring painful recollections and feelings that that social season can never be again what it has been to them; but let that pass. Of the coup d'etat so vigorously and efficiently struck by the French President, we shall have much to say before we close, and we may truly add, we know not what may be the state of public affairs in "La Belle France" at the end of the current twenty-four hours; at present, however, all looks favorable, quiet, and peaceable. In London the change is great. The newspaper offices are besieged for late editions of the papers. The stock exchange movements, which have lately been influenced by a rise or fall of 1 per cent., have now to contend with the effects of a fall of 2½ per cent. in six hours; and London, which, when we last wrote, was apathetically torpid, is now anxious, active, and excitable. No political changes in the foreign relations of England are anticipated from this new phase in the condition of France. How the other continental nations may regard it, it would be presumptuous even to guess. France will, no doubt, from an increase of the elective franchise, become more democratic in her institutions. She is already too much so for many of her continental neighbors, and we think she is likely to become more unpalatable to the taste of most of them; but their own condition, resting as they are upon a very uncertain tenure of power, will prevent, it is very probable, any of them thrusting a finger into the French political pie; seeing they know not how soon they may have a dish of very similar ingredients placed before them. It is quite clear that England is bound to recognise whatever Chief Magistrate the French nation may elect or accept to govern them. However we may hesitate to approve his rashness, and deprecate his unconstitutionalism, it is obvious that of these things the people of France are the only proper judges. And provided that judgment be fully consulted and fairly pronounced, we, in our diplomatic courtesies and public relations, have but to abide by it.

Louis Napoleon and the French Legislative Chamber were standing, and have long been standing, in directly antagonistic relations. We do not presume to say which entertained the most loyal feelings towards the Constitution and the institutions which both had solemnly sworn to support and defend. We think, however, that the changes which the Chamber, if it had prevailed over the President, would have endeavored to bring about, would have been more in opposition to the desires and the prosperity of France than those which Louis Napoleon apparently advocates and promises to sustain.

At the time when LOUIS NAPOLEON achieved his coup d'etat it is very well known that a large portion of the Chamber was debating upon the immediate arrest of the President. So far as it appears at present, the blow struck by Louis Napoleon was chiefly defensive. He was placed in a position in which, to use a common expression, he had to "kill or be killed;" and if killed, leave to France an inheritance of anarchy, alternating between stagnation and turbulence, but in either case anarchy. He knew this, he struck the first blow; if he had not, it is probable that in a few hours he would have received it; "he has set his life," or, at all events, his power and position "upon the cast," and he will stand the hazard of the die. If we wish him success, it is because all our wishes are for the peace and happiness of France; and, although we are far from having unlimited confidence in either his principles or his proceeding, we think he and the men by whom he is likely to be supported, will more truly consult the wishes and promote the well-being of the people than would any man of the elder or the younger branch of the Bourbons, or any supporter of either who might be placed in power over France, through the successful machinations of Messrs. Thiers, Mole, or Odilon Barrot—some of whom are competent to give lessons in conspiracy to even Cagliostro himself. For England we have nothing to fear from the proximity of disturbed France. We have no republican feeling here, as our fathers had sixty years ago, threatening the assertion of French principles, as the rights of cashing kings and plundering nobles were called at that time. We have no allies on the Continent, with the exception of Belgium and Holland—and they will probably be only very slightly agitated by the political hurricane which must before long sweep over Europe—for whom we feel any special interest. In short, to England the turn which affairs may take in France must be, in all selfish regards, a matter of almost absolute indifference; but, for humanity's sake, and for the sake of our amiable and accomplished neighbors, we sincerely wish for France and her people a just and stable Government.

We scarcely know how to bring our news from France into any thing like a regular and compact shape, but we will try to furnish a brief chronological summary of news as it has reached us through our daily papers.

On Tuesday the second editions of the morning papers gave the startling news, received by submarine telegraph: That Louis Napoleon had that morning dissolved the Legislative Assembly, declared Paris to be in a state of siege, proclaimed universal suffrage, and committed Generals Cavaignac, Changarnier, Lamoriciere, Bedeau, and Charras, and M. Thiers to rule in Vincennes. Paris was said to be quite tranquil, and the army decidedly with the President. The effect in London was to cause a fall in the funds of at least two per cent., and a general stagnation in business of every kind. On Wednesday morning the papers informed us that news had been received from Paris up to four o'clock on the preceding evening. The aspect of the people was calm, and re-assuring proclamations were posted up every where, and people were reading them with curiosity, but without excitement. The police and soldiery had no occasion to interfere in the support of order. A considerable number of the Deputies had, during the day, endeavored to assemble at various places, but had everywhere been dispersed by the military. M. Dupin, the President of the Chamber, had been placed under arrest, as had also the four Vice Presidents and some of the questors. Several leading members of the Chamber of all parties had also been arrested. The following extract from the correspondence of the Daily News gives a very graphic account of the state of things in Paris on Tuesday:

"The only change made in the Cabinet, so far, is with respect to the Ministry of the Interior—M. de Thiering is replaced by M. de Morney, a gentleman personally attached to the President of the Republic. Louis Napoleon does not conceal himself, but appears publicly, and by his open confidence in the people elicits favorable cries, for it must be repeated that 'Vive la Republique' now ranks amongst the loyal tokens, and this cry predominates. I saw a while ago a general officer ride up the boulevards, attended simply by a couple of dragoons; he did not put his horse out of a walk, while the people vehemently shouted 'Vive la Republique,' and he bowed and bowed with sympathetic acknowledgments. All that is now doing is in the name of the Republic. It is understood that the Republic does not fall with an Assembly which was a focus of conspiracy. It may give you some idea of the secrecy with which this affair has been managed, that, although there was a reception last night at the Elysee, not a whisper of suspicion was heard amongst the assembled crowd, nor could the least indication of emotion be traced on the ever-inscrutable countenance of the chief actor in this extraordinary drama. Even the *Moniteur* was kept in the dark. The official journal contains a sweep-out of prospects and sub-plots, so that the departments are all in sure hands, and the Minister of the Interior has reliable agents. All the proclamations were printed at the Elysee, in a private printing office, at which the *Napoleon* newspaper used to be worked off. It is said that M. Dupin has made his escape. Now comes the question, will this coup d'etat succeed? So far appearances are favorable to the President. The people are satisfied at the restoration of the suffrage. While shouts of 'Vive la Republique' were being uttered, I asked one of the people did 'Vive la Republique' mean well towards the President? and the prompt answer was, 'No doubt of it; because he has declared for the Republic, and has restored universal suffrage.' There are persons who, on the other hand, augur ill. Accounts from the provinces will be looked for with anxiety. It is well that the Montagnards are all here in the city, where they can be watched; for were they scattered through the country they would certainly endeavor to stir up resistance. It is said that the military members of the Assembly did not quietly submit to arrest. If we are to credit rumor, Col. Charras killed the man who laid his hand upon him. Gen. Cavaignac received some hurt, and Gen. Bedeau is wounded.

"These different details have, as you may well imagine, been noted down somewhat at random, as fast as they could be collected, and without any attempt at arrangement, which under the present circumstances would be impossible. It is announced that a meeting of the Assembly has been held at Gen. Lauriston's, representative and colonel of the 10th National Guard, where they have decreed the dissolution of the President, and outlawed him. Colonel Lauriston is a Legitimist, and as the 10th legion is composed of the inhabitants of the Faubourg St. Germain, the great Legitimist quarter, the municipal authorities of the same quarter have met. It is said that Col. Lauriston offers to march to the Assembly; but who will follow him? There have been meetings of the Parliamentary clubs of the Rue des Pyramides, which has always been friendly disposed towards the President.

"The National, the Opinion Publique, the Messager, the Presse, the Republique, the Ordre, the Avenir, are suspended, and the offices occupied by military.

"The secretary of M. Duchatel is arrested."

The following is the decree of the President of the Republic, countersigned by M. de Morney, who had been appointed late last night Minister of the Interior, in place of M. de Thiering:

In the name of the French People the President of the Republic decrees:

- Art. 1. The National Assembly is dissolved.
- Art. 2. Universal suffrage is re-established. The law of the 31st of May is abrogated.
- Art. 3. The French people are convoked in their respective districts from the 14th to the 21st of December.
- Art. 4. The state of siege is decreed in all the extent of the military division.
- Art. 5. The Council of State is dissolved.
- Art. 6. The Minister of the Interior is charged with the execution of the present decrees.

Given at the Palace of the Elysee the 2d December. LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

The Minister of the Interior, Dr. MORNEY.

The following proclamation of the President to the people was also placarded, headed "Appeal to the People."

Frenchmen! The present situation cannot last longer. Every day which passes aggravates the dangers of the country. The Assembly, which ought to be the firmest support of order, has become a centre of conspiracy. The patriotism of three hundred of its members has not been able to check its fatal tendencies. Instead of making laws for the general interest, it forces arms for civil war; it attacks the power which I hold directly from the people; it encourages all bad passions; it compromises the repose of France. I have dissolved it, and I make the people judge between it and myself.

The Constitution, you know, was made with the view of enabling in advance the power that you were about to confide to me. Six millions of suffrages were a striking protest against it, and yet I have faithfully respected it. Provocations, calumnies, and outrages have found me impassible. But now that the fundamental compact is in long respected, even by those who incessantly invoke it, and that men who have already ruined two monarchies wish to tie my hands in order to overthrow the Republic, my duty is to battle their perfidious projects, to maintain the Republic, and to save the country by invoking the solemn judgment of the only Sovereign I acknowledge in France—the people.

I make, then, a loyal appeal to the whole nation, and I say to you, if you wish to continue the state of disquietude which weighs upon the components of our future, choose another in my place, for I will no longer retain government which is powerless to do good, which renders me responsible for acts I cannot prevent, and binds me to the helm when I see the vessel driving towards the abyss. If, on the contrary, you have confidence in me, give me the means of accomplishing the great mission which I hold from you.

This mission consists in closing the era of revolutions by satisfying the legitimate wants of the people, and protecting them against subversive passions. It especially consists in creating institutions which shall survive men, and which are the foundations on which something durable can be placed.

Persuaded that the instability of the Government, and the preponderance of a single Assembly, are permanent causes of trouble and discord, I submit to your suffrages the following fundamental bases of a constitution, which Assemblies will develop at a later period:

1. A responsible Chief named for ten years.
2. Ministers dependent upon the Executive power alone.
3. A Council of State, composed of the most distinguished men, preparing laws, and maintaining their discussion before the legislative body.
4. A Legislative Body, discussing and voting the laws, named by universal suffrage, without scrutinizing ballot, which violates the electoral principle.
5. A Second Assembly, composed of all the distinguished men of the country—a preponderating power, guardian of the fundamental principles and of the public liberties. This system, created by the First Consul, has become the monument of the century, has already given to France repose and prosperity; it would still guarantee them. Such is my deep conviction. If you share in it, declare it by your votes. If, on the contrary, you prefer a Government without fixed power, monarchic or republican, taken from I know not what past, or from what chimerical future, reply in the negative. Thus, then, for the first time since 1804, you will vote with your eyes open, knowing for whom and for what you are voting. If I do not obtain the majority of your votes I shall call for the meeting of a new Assembly, to whom I will deliver the mandate I have received from you. But if you believe in the cause of which my name is the symbol—that is, France regenerated by the revolution of '89 and organized by the Emperor—if you believe that cause to be still yours, proclaim it by consecrating the powers I ask of you. This France and Europe will be preserved from anarchy; obstacles will be removed; all rivalries will have disappeared; for all will reflect on the decision of the people—the decree of Providence.

Given at the Palace of the Elysee, this 2d day of December. LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

The following is the proclamation to the army, headed "Proclamation of the President of the Republic to the Army."

Soldiers! Be proud of your mission—you will save the country; for I count on you not to violate the laws, but to cause to be respected the first law of the country—national sovereignty, of which I am the legitimate representative. For a long time you have suffered, like me, by the obstacles which opposed themselves both to the good I wished to do you, and to the demonstrations of your sympathy in my favor. These obstacles are broken down, (broken down) the Assembly has endorsed the mandate I have received from you. But if you believe in the cause of which my name is the symbol—that is, France regenerated by the revolution of '89 and organized by the Emperor—if you believe that cause to be still yours, proclaim it by consecrating the powers I ask of you. This France and Europe will be preserved from anarchy; obstacles will be removed; all rivalries will have disappeared; for all will reflect on the decision of the people—the decree of Providence.

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difficult of the nation. To-day, in this solemn moment, I am resolved that the army shall be heard.

Whether the army be called to the aid of the President, or whether the President be called to the aid of the army, the chief of the Government is the rigorous duty of the army, from the general down to the soldier. It is for me, responsible for my actions before the people and before posterity, to take the measures which seem to me indispensable for the public good.

As to you, remain immovable within the rules of discipline and honor. Aid by your imposing attitude the country to manifest its will in calm and reflection. Be ready to repress any attack on the free exercise of the sovereignty of the people.

Soldiers, I do not speak to you of the souvenirs which my name recalls. They are engraved in your hearts. We are united by indissoluble ties; your history is mine. There is between us in the past community of glory and misfortune; there will be in the future community of sentiments and of resolutions for the repose and grandeur of France.

Given at the Palace of the Elysee, this 2d December. LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

The following is the "Proclamation of the Prefect of Police to the inhabitants of Paris."

The President of the Republic, by a courageous initiative, has just baffled the machinations of parties, and put an end to the agony of the country. It is in the name of the people, for their interest, and for the maintenance of the Republic, that the event has been accomplished. It is to the judgment of the people that Louis Napoleon Bonaparte submits his conduct. The grandeur of the act will make you sufficiently understand with what imposing and solemn calm the free exercise of popular sovereignty should be manifested. To-day, then, as yesterday, let order be our flag; let all good citizens, animated like me by the love of the country, afford me their co-operation with the firmest resolution.

"Inhabitants of Paris: Have confidence in him whom six millions of votes raised to be the first magistrate of the country. When he calls on the whole people to express its will, the factious alone can wish to throw an obstacle in the way. Any attempt at disorder will therefore be promptly and inflexibly repressed."

PARIS, DECEMBER 2.

The following Circular was addressed to the Commissioners of Police by the Prefect:

Monsieur le Commissaire: The more circumstances become serious, the more important do your functions also become. Watch with courage and unflinching energy for the purpose of supporting and maintaining the public tranquillity. Do not tolerate the slightest assemblage on any point of the capital; do not permit any meeting the object of which may appear to you to be suspicious. Let no attempt at disturbance take place without immediately putting a stop to it by inflexible measures of repression. I rely on your devotedness; rely on my support.

The most extraordinary feature in this most important affair, says the correspondent of the "News," was the apparent calm of the people on reading these proclamations, and witnessing the arrangements that had been made to ensure the success of the enterprise. Here and there, indeed, the proclamations were torn down or defaced, but this was by no means general.

The approaches to the National Assembly and the Elysee were guarded at an early hour, but at the outside of the line of troops a considerable crowd had collected, and many persons exclaimed, "Il a bien fait!" but there were fewer cries than usual in political demonstrations.

At about eleven o'clock an attempt was made by about forty members of the Assembly to force their way to the legislative palace, but they were all turned back. The Tuilleries Gardens were closed, and a report was current in the crowd that in the course of the day the President of the Republic would take up his residence in the Palace of the Tuilleries.

"Up to the time of going to press (says *Galignani's Messenger*) the capital was tranquil. There is not the slightest agitation in the faubourgs. The President of the Republic, attended by a brilliant staff, left the Elysee at about half-past ten o'clock this morning, and went along the Quai. He was saluted with loud cries of 'Vive la Republique! Vive Napoleon!'"

"It is a curious fact, in connexion with the important events of this day, that the 2d of December is the anniversary of the coronation of the Emperor Napoleon, in 1804, and of the battle of Austerlitz, in 1805.

"The Bourse has fallen 30 sous. Five per cent. 80fr. 50c."

The second editions of the Wednesday morning papers contained the following additional news:

PARIS, DECEMBER 3—9 A. M.

The new Ministry is composed of M. de Morney, Interior; Fould, Finance; Rouher, Justice; Magne, Public Works; Ducos, Marine; Casabianca, Commerce; St. Arnaud, War; Fortoul, Public Instruction; Turgot, Foreign Affairs.

Paris is perfectly tranquil. The theatres were opened yesterday evening; and the intelligence received from seventeen departments announce the greatest tranquillity.

MM. Baroche, Drouin de L'Huy, Admiral Ceille, Montalembert, Lucien Murat, and seventy-five other distinguished members of the National Assembly form the new Council of State.

The meeting of two hundred members in the tenth arrondissement has turned out a complete failure. They declared Louis Bonaparte to be turned out of office, and appointed General Oudinot to command the army of Paris. Some of the National Guards got up a cry of "Vive l'Assemblée!" but the people only booed them. A party of the foot Chasseurs arrived, when the National Guards walked quietly home, and the representatives were marched off two and two, under escort, it is said, to the Invalides.

The Standard of Wednesday evening says:

"The event in Paris on Tuesday are inadequately described as a *coup d'etat*. They amount to a sweeping revolution, comprehending within a few hours what, in other countries and at other times, has been the work of weeks, months, or years.

"It is rumored that Gen. Cavaignac made great resistance, but was overpowered. Orders were, it is said, given to arrest him. Thiers, but we learn that he did not sleep at home.

"The whole number of arrests is said to amount to sixty-seven, and all of them but one or two were effected before six o'clock of the morning. Other accounts raise the number of arrests as high as one hundred and fifty. All the prisoners were immediately upon their capture transmitted to the prison Mazos.

The following statements and reflections of the highest Conservative journal in London—the *Standard*—are at this moment very striking:

"At eight o'clock A. M. several members of the opposition party assembled at the house of M. Odilon Barrot, and thence proceeded to the house of M. Daru, one of the Vice Presidents of the Assembly, where by eleven o'clock not less than two hundred were collected. They then proceeded to the usual place of meeting, the Legislative Palace, which they found guarded against them, and were foiled in an attempt to force an entrance, an attempt in which one of the number, M. de Larey, was wounded by a bayonet thrust. After a formal summons and protest the two hundred were about to return to M. Daru's residence, when they received an invitation from M. Lauriston, Colonel of the 10th Legion of National Guards, offering for their service the Mairie of the Tenth Arrondissement. Thither they repaired, and went through the ceremony of appointing Gen. Oudinot commander-in-chief of Paris, formally deposing the President, creating a high court of justice for his trial, &c., when their force was interrupted by the intrusion of a body of the Chasseurs of Vincennes. M. Berryer attempted a popular appeal from a window, but he was silenced by derisive shouts, reminding him that he was the lackey of the Duc de Bordeaux, and that his friend Oudinot was the Pope's executioner at Rome. The officer in command of the Vincennes Chasseurs proceeded to take down the names of the persons assembled in the Mairie. When M. Odilon Barrot insisted upon being arrested, the officer politely declined to oblige him. M. Odilon Barrot then returned, accompanied by MM. Mole and de Broglie. M. Daru, however, was not permitted to withdraw so easily; he was taken into custody, and M. Cremieux was arrested as he was returning from the Mairie. The only attempt at opposition to the measures of the President was made in the sixth arrondissement by a few Montagnards, but it was speedily suppressed; every where else the faubourgs were perfectly tranquil, though fears were naturally enough

entertained for the chances of the night succeeding to such a day.

"Whatever opinion may be formed as to the moral merits of the President's proceeding, it cannot be denied that it is a proceeding boldly conceived and arranged, and executed with consummate skill; and before pronouncing upon its moral merits, it is right fairly to consider the difficulties of Louis Napoleon's position. Nothing in history presents a parallel to that position. The theory of government, whatever form of government is adopted, resolves itself into the distribution of that power, which is in its origin the power of the whole people; but which, even in the smallest community, is too unwieldy to be safely exercised by the people themselves without some artificial checks and balances—how much beyond the capacity of a nation of thirty-five millions! The last French constitution, however, was an attempt to leave the whole power of the people in the hands of the whole people for all use, with no other check or balance than a single magistrate, with very limited means for self-defence; with no means whatever to restrain the popular force, without even an independent body to mediate between the magistrate and his inevitable antagonists, the leaders of the populace. The Chamber, whatever might be its origin, or however constituted, must necessarily lapse into resistance to the magistrate, whose duty it must be to control its excesses; but resistance, where there is no third party to which to appeal, must grow to enmity, and enmity, if not held enough to avow itself, puts on the cloak of conspiracy—a cloak too familiar to a people who, like the people of France, have gone through we cannot count how many revolutions, all hatched in secret councils within the last sixty years. It is well for us who have the threefold security of a balanced Government, an intermediate estate between the people and the executive, and traditions of order of centuries' duration, to speak harshly of measures like that adopted by the French President; but let us place ourselves in his position, and then we may form a less unfavorable opinion. Paying no regard to the influence of a care for his personal safety or his personal interests, was he not bound to care for the peace of the country, and was that condition of the nation which we lately described as a 'stagnant anarchy'—how truly passing events tell—a condition promising of long continued peace? In his proclamation Louis Napoleon complains that the Assembly had become 'a centre of plots.' Upon what specific evidence he makes this complaint we know not; but we have complete evidence of the probability that the complaint is well founded."

THURSDAY MORNING.—In a complete list of the new Council of State, we find the following important names, in addition to those before mentioned: D'Argout, (Governor of the Bank.) Gen. Baraguay d'Hilliers, F. Barrot, De Beaumont, Cambaceres, Casabianca, Theodore Ducos, Dumas, Gen. d'Hautpoul, Marshal Exelmans, Leon Faucher, Achille Fould, Moynard, Persigny, St. Arnaud, de Turgot, de Thiering, de Wagram, &c. &c.

The following circular of the Minister of War has been sent to all the generals and chiefs of corps:

"General: I transmit to you the proclamation of the President of the Republic addressed to the French people and to the army. You will cause them to be immediately posted up in the barracks, and you will give orders to each commanding officer to have them read aloud